

and Tori is the first from my district to achieve such an honor. I am very proud of Tori's talent as a student athlete. I congratulate her on the outstanding accomplishment of being a member of the 2016 McDonald's All American Girls Game winning team, played at the United Center on March 30th.

**NATIONAL ACADEMY OF FUTURE  
SCIENTISTS AND TECH-  
NOLOGISTS—COY GARDNER**

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 20, 2016*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Coy Gardner from Katy, TX for being accepted into the National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists to represent the state of Texas at the Congress of Future Science and Technology leaders.

Coy attends Katy High School and is one of 13 high school honor students selected from the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas. These students were selected as Texas delegates at the Congress of Future Science and Technology Leaders. This program was designed for high school students to be recognized for their hard work in school, as well as to support their aspirations of working in a science or technology field. The National Academy was founded by Richard Rossi and Dr. Robert Darling; Mr. Rossi currently serves as president. The Congress is being held at the Tsongas Center at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell from June 29th through July 1st. Coy was selected by a group of educators to be a delegate for the Congress thanks to his dedication to his academic success and goals pursuing science or technology. We are proud of Coy and all of his hard work, and know he will make Katy proud.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Coy for being accepted into the National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists. Keep up the great work.

**HONORING SUNFLOWER COUNTY  
FREEDOM PROJECT**

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 20, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable organization, Sunflower County Freedom Project.

Founded in 1998, the Sunflower County Freedom Project was started by three Teach for America teachers who saw a need for an educational program in the Mississippi Delta that would challenge and engage young people in the area. Initially, the organization was a summer program at Mississippi Delta Community College that grew into a year-round program at the University of Mississippi. In 2002, the organization purchased the LEAD Center in Sunflower, which houses all of their programs. They target students in Sunflower County to complete a six-year fellowship with the organization beginning with the summer before they begin seventh grade. The overall

goal is to have 100 percent of their "fellows", also known as students, go on to enroll in four year colleges and universities. To this date they have met that goal.

The Freedom Project is for students in 7th–12th grade who want to discipline themselves into becoming leaders in their homes, schools and communities. The middle school students partake in Freedom Summer, which is named for and rooted in the Civil Rights history of Freedom Summer '64. The high school students can participate in ACT Camp or summer opportunities around the country including Philips Exeter Summer Academy and Explo at Yale University.

They seek to provide students with opportunities and challenges that will allow them to grow and mature into leaders for the Mississippi Delta. The multi-faceted approach includes rigorous academic work, arts enrichment, fitness and wellness training, educational travel and character development for every student. They travel the country, live in college dorm rooms, and camp in the wilderness to develop our students and enrich their lives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sunflower County Freedom Project for its dedication to serving others and giving back to the African American community.

**CASA OF MERCED COUNTY—  
ALLIED PROFESSIONAL AWARD**

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 20, 2016*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the bipartisan Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus (VRC) advocates for the silent voices of crime victims. JIM COSTA (D-CA) and I founded the VRC 10 years ago when we were first elected to Congress. During its 10 year existence, the VRC has taken the lead in protecting programs that provide critical support for victim services throughout the nation, including the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), and the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA). Each year the members of the caucus join together to honor outstanding individuals who have given their time and service to helping victims. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Caucus.

On behalf of Congressman COSTA (D-CA) and myself, we are proud to recognize an organization that makes a big difference in the San Joaquin Valley: Court Appointed Special Advocates also known as CASA of Merced County. Nominated by Congressman COSTA, the CASA of Merced County is the recipient of the VRC Allied Professional Award.

With a mission to place every child in a safe, loving, and permanent home, CASA relies on the work of volunteer advocates for the interests of children overlooked by society. In order to ensure that every child is properly taken care in the eyes of both the law and the community, these volunteers provide judges with detailed information of a child's home life and legal situation to help judges better understand each and every child's unique story.

The Executive Director, Shar Herrera and her staff work diligently to support children

who are victims of abuse and neglect. Sadly, children who are victims of neglect and are in the foster care system are too often in a situation where they do not have a single person in their life that they can trust and rely on. But Merced CASA has changed that horrible reality for hundreds of children throughout Merced County.

CASA volunteers are often there for the children beyond just the courtroom; they are friends, mentors, and confidants for the children they support. The volunteers who are trained by CASA for Merced County change children's lives for the better every single day. CASA and their advocates have done right by their community, and, most importantly, right by children in need. I am proud to recognize them as the recipient of the Allied Professional Award.

And that is just the way it is.

**TRIBUTE TO RICHARD  
FORRISTALL**

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 20, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Richard Forristall of Council Bluffs, Iowa, on his recent retirement as a Deputy with the Pottawattamie County Sheriff's Department. For more than 33 years, Deputy Forristall has served Pottawattamie County citizens. He began his career in court security, later joining the road division where he became a K-9 handler.

Deputy Forristall said, "When I started, I was one of the only K-9 handlers in the area. I helped other surrounding counties, the Iowa State Patrol, and the Department of Transportation." He said he enjoyed meeting and helping people. Pottawattamie County Sheriff Jeff Danker said, "He's done a great job. He's done a lot of things for us. You hate to see him go, but I know he's done a great job for the citizens of Pottawattamie County."

Mr. Speaker, Deputy Forristall made a difference by serving others. It is with great honor that I recognize him today. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating him for his accomplishments. I thank him for his service to Pottawattamie County and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

**RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF GLEN AND POLLY  
BARTON**

**HON. DARIN LAHOOD**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 20, 2016*

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor Mr. and Mrs. Glen and Polly Barton for their tireless contributions to Peoria, Illinois and the surrounding communities. Glen and Polly Barton have dedicated their time, money, and most importantly their passion to making the community a better place to live. The Bartons are recognized as leaders and philanthropists where their generosity and guidance have touched the lives of so many.